IANCIAL CORPORATION

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Mr. Vernon Williams Surface Transportation Board 1925 K Street, NW Washington, D.C. 20423-0001

SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

RE:

Certification of True Copy of the Assignment and Assumption Agreement dated as of September 30, 2003 ("Assignment and Assumption") between the David J. Joseph Company (f/k/a Joseph Transportation Services, Inc.) and Helm Financial Corporation.

Dear Mr. Williams:

February 27, 2004

On behalf of Helm Financial Corporation, I submit for filing and recording, under 49 U.S.C. Section 11303(a) and the regulations promulgated thereunder the following document:

Two (2) fully executed originals of the above-referenced Assignment and Assumption.

In connection with the recording of the Termination, please note the following information:

Name and Address of Assignor:

The David J. Joseph Company

300 Pike Street

Cincinnati, OH 45201-4222

Name and Address of Assignee:

Helm Financial Corporation

One Embarcadero Center, Suite 3700

San Francisco, CA 94111

Equipment:

One hundred twenty-four (124) Gondola Railcars

ECCX 98001-98148 (Not Inclusive)

Please record this Assignment and Assumption as a supplemental agreement to STB Recordation No. **22070** filed on March 12, 1999. The filing fee of \$30.00 is included in our enclosed check.

Summary: Certification of True Copy of the Assignment and Assumption Agreement dated as of September 30, 2003 between the David J. Joseph Company (f/k/a Joseph Transportation Services, Inc.) as the Assignor and Helm Financial Corporation as the Assignee for 124 coal gondola railcars, ECXX 98001-98144 (not inclusive), to be filed as a supplemental agreement. Please file this Assignment and Assumption as a supplemental agreement to STB Recordation No. 22070.

Yours truly,

Sharon L. Van Fossan

Supervisor Contract Administration

Enclosures (2)

stb\assign\djj ecdc

svf/02/27/04

RECORDATION NO. 27070-15

CERTIFICATION OF TRUE COPY

MAR 8 '04

12-48 PM

SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

On October 9, 2003, I Sharon L. Van Fossan, have examined the original copy of the Assignment and Assumption Agreement dated as of September 30, 2003 between The David J. Joseph Company (f/k/a Joseph Transportation Services, Inc.) and Helm Financial Corporation, and I hereby certify that I have compared the attached duplicate copy with the original and that it is a complete, true and correct copy of the original in all respects, including the dates, signatures and acknowledgments thereof.

Sharon L. Van Fossan

Supervisor Contract Administration

STATE OF CALIFORNIA) S.S. COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO)

On October 9, 2003, before me, J. L. Pat Taft, personally appeared Sharon L. Van Fossan, Supervisor Contract Administration for **HELM FINANCIAL CORPORATION**,

- \underline{X} personally known to me -OR-
- proved to me on the basis of satisfactory evidence to be the person(s) whose name(s) is/are subscribed to the within instrument and acknowledged to me that be/she/they executed the same in his/her/their authorized capacity(ies), and that by his/her/their signature(s) on the instrument the person(s), or the entity upon behalf of which the person(s) acted, executed the instrument.

J.L. PAT TAFT

Commission # 1425076

Notary Public - California

San Francisco County

My Comm. Expires Jul 16, 2007

Witness my hand and official seal.

SIGNATURE OF THE NOTARY

[Notarial Seal]

ASSIGNMENT AND ASSUMPTION AGREEMENT

THIS ASSIGNMENT AND ASSUMPTION AGREEMENT ("Assignment") is dated September 30, 2003 ("Closing Date"), by and between THE DAVID J. JOSEPH COMPANY (f/k/a JOSEPH TRANSPORTATION SERVICES, INC.), a Delaware corporation ("Assignor") and HELM FINANCIAL CORPORATION, a California corporation ("Assignee").

RECITALS

WHEREAS, pursuant to the terms and conditions of that certain Agreement of Purchase and Sale dated as of June 17, 2003, between Assignor and Assignee ("Agreement") the Assignor desires to assign to Assignee all of its rights and obligations under that certain Railroad Equipment Lease dated as of February 16, 1999, together with all supplements, amendments, waivers and other related documentation, including, without limitation, the Guaranty Agreement of Allied Waste Industries, a Delaware corporation (collectively, the "Lease") pertaining to the railcars ("Units") all as more particularly described on Schedule A hereto.

NOW, THEREFORE, for good and valuable consideration, the receipt and adequacy of which is hereby acknowledged, Assignor and Assignee hereby agree as follows:

- 1. Assignment. Assignor hereby forever and irrevocably assigns, transfers and sets over to Assignee all of its right, title and interest in and to the Lease, subject to no liens, security interests or other encumbrances; provided, however, that Assignor retains and does not assign to Assignee, the following rights: (a) the right to payment of (i) all rents and all other amounts (including, without limitation, Casualty Settlement Value payments) due and payable under the Lease for all rental periods prior to October 1, 2003, and (ii) the right to the payment of indemnities and liability insurance proceeds which are now or hereafter payable to the Assignor for its own account under the Lease, in respect of any claims against the Assignor relating to periods ending on or prior to the Closing Date, and (b) the right to enforce payment of the amounts referred to in the foregoing clause (a) of this paragraph without cost or expense to the Assignee.
- 2. Assumption. Assignee hereby assumes and agrees to fully and timely perform all of the obligations and liabilities of the Lessor under the Lease, to the extent such obligations and liabilities first accrue and arise after the Closing Date and pertain to time periods after the Closing Date; provided, however, that Assignee does not assume any obligations or liabilities under the Lease regarding any other items of rail equipment except with respect to the Units purchased under the Agreement.
- 3. <u>Further Assurances</u>. At the request of Assignee and without further consideration, the Assignor shall execute and deliver such additional instruments of transfer and will take such other action as Assignee may reasonably request in order to more effectively carry out the transactions contemplated in this Assignment.
- 4. <u>Counterparts</u>. This Assignment may be executed by the parties hereto in separate counterparts, each of which when so executed and delivered shall be an original, but all such counterparts shall together constitute but one and the same instrument.

- 5. Binding Effect. This Assignment shall be binding upon, and inure to the benefit of, the parties hereto and their respective successors and assigns.
- 6. Governing Law. This Assignment shall be governed by, and construed in accordance with, the laws of the State of California without reference to its conflict of laws provisions.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties pursuant to due authority have executed this Assignment through their authorized representatives as of the date first above written.

ASSIGNOR

THE DAVID J. JOSEPH COMPANY

ASSIGNEE

HELM FINANCIAL CORPORATION

Name:

Paul G. Jantsch Executive Vice President Title:

Name: Title President

SCHEDULE A

TO THE ASSIGNMENT AND ASSUMPTION AGREEMENT

Unit Description:

One hundred twenty-four (124) 4,000 cubic foot flat bottom coal gondola railcars built by Hawker Siddley in 1970-1974.

Unit Mark and Numbers:

ECXX 98001*, 98002*, 98003, 98004, 98005, 98007, 98008, 98009, 98011, 98015, 98016, 98017, 98018, 98019, 98020, 98021, 98022, 98023, 98025, 98026, 98027, 98029, 98031, 98032, 98033, 98034*, 98035, 98036, 98037, 98038, 98039, 98040, 98041, 98042, 98043, 98044, 98045, 98046, 98048, 98049, 98050, 98051, 98052, 98053, 98054, 98055, 98056, 98057, 98058, 98059, 98060, 98061, 98062, 98063, 98064, 98065, 98066, 98067, 98069, 98070, 98071, 98072, 98073, 98074, 98075, 98076, 98077, 98078, 98079, 98080, 98081, 98082, 98083, 98084, 98085, 98086, 98087, 98088, 98090, 98091, 98092, 98093, 98095, 98096, 98097, 98098, 98099, 98100, 98101, 98103, 98105, 98106, 98108, 98109*, 98110*, 98111*, 98112*, 98114*, 98115*, 98116*, 98117*, 98118*, 98119, 98120*, 98122*, 98124*, 98125, 98128, 98129, 98131, 98132, 98133, 98135, 98136, 98137, 98138, 98139, 98140, 98142, 98144, 98145, 98146, 98147, 98148

* Denotes cars built prior to July 1974 as follows:

ECXX	98001	5/74
ECXX	98002	5/74
ECXX	98034	5/74
ECXX	98109	1/70
ECXX	98110	1/70
ECXX	98111	1/70
ECXX	98112	1/71
ECXX	98114	8/71
ECXX	98115	1/74
ECXX	98116	1/74
ECXX	98117	1/74
ECXX	98118	1/74
ECXX	98120	1/74
ECXX	98122	1/74
ECXX	98124	1/74

STATE OF OHIO)
S.S.
COUNTY OF HAMILTON)

On September 30, 2003 before me, Linda M. Baughman, personally appeared Paul G. Jantsch, the Executive Vice President of THE DAVID J. JOSEPH COMPANY (f/k/a JOSEPH TRANSPORTATION SERVICES, INC.), personally known to me to be the person whose name is/are subscribed to the within instrument and acknowledged to me that he executed the same in his authorized capacity, and that by his signature on the instrument the person, or the entity upon behalf of which the person acted, executed the instrument.

LI N

 $\ensuremath{\mathsf{LINDA}}\xspace \ensuremath{\mathsf{M}}\xspace. \ensuremath{\mathsf{BAUGHMAN}}\xspace^{-1}\xspace$ itness my hand and official seal.

Notary Public, State of Ohlo My Commission Expires July 22, 2007

SIGNATURE OF THE NOTARY

[Notarial Seal]

STATE OF CALIFORNIA)) S.S.		
COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO			
On October 1st, 2003 before me, Matthew M. Oghurn, personally appeared John F. Dains, President of HELM FINANCIAL CORPORATION.			
personally known to me			
proved to me on the ba	asis of satisfactory evidence		

to be the person(\$) whose name(\$) is/are subscribed to the within instrument and acknowledged to me that he/she/they executed the same in his/he/their authorized capacity(\$), and that by his/he/their signature(\$) on the instrument the person(\$), or the entity upon behalf of which the person(\$) acted, executed the instrument

J.L. PAT TAFT
Commission # 1425076
Notary Public - California
San Francisco County
My Comm. Expires Jul 16, 2007

Witness my hand and official seal.

SIGNATURE OF THE NOTARY

[Notarial Seal]